Attorney Reference: 121778-04353859

Preliminary Amendment dated December 3, 2004

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Amendment to the Abstract of the Disclosure:

Please insert the Abstract of the Disclosure from the related International application as submitted herewith on a separate sheet of paper.

Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention relates to the use of Asialo- G_{m1} (Ag_{m1},) and/or GM gangliosides, and substances which simulate the carbohydrate part of said gangliosides in terms of binding to anti-AG_{m1} antibodies and/or anti-G_{m1} antibodies, for producing an agent which blocks or binds to anti-AG_{m1} antibodies and/or anti-G_{m1} antibodies which bind to natural killer cells (NKC), said agent being administered to patients at high risk of sepsis and to patients with sepsis, in whom such antibodies have been detected, for the prevention, inhibition and treatment of sepsis.